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Davis, Bloomfield; Miss J. Randall Spaulding, and Miss —— Eldridge, Montclair.

FRANKLIN, N. J., *June 9th.*

H. H. RUSBY.

§ 326. **White Strawberry.**—I send you some plants of a white strawberry. It is plainly *Fragaria vesca*, L. These plants have borne white fruit as long as I have known anything about them, so that the peculiarity seems to be constant. On referring to the BULLETIN (II. 30), I find that this has been noticed by Mrs. A. E. Brown, in Northern New York. She found the whole plant of a lighter color than those which had red fruit. My specimens having only the fruit white might perhaps be called *var. albocarpa*. The plants grow in the shade and perhaps this may be connected with the color of the fruit.

Staten Island Plants.—Please add to my list of Staten Island grasses, *Agrostis alba*, L., common; *Calamagrostis Canadensis*, Beauv., near Garretsons; *Glyceria obtusa*, Trin., near Tottenville. *Arrhenatherum avenaceum*, Beauv., near Clifton, and at Richmond village. I have also found *Monarda fistulosa*, L., at Richmond, and *Trifolium incarnatum*, L., in waste ground near Richmond.

Cyperus.—I am studying this genus, and wish specimens from all quarters. Would be glad to exchange.

NEW DORP, *July 2d.*

N. L. BRITTON.

327. **Notes from Rhode Island.**—I found the other day in peculiarly rich and moist soil a gigantic fasciated specimen of *Ranunculus repens*, L. As Dr. Masters does not record this plant among his instances of fasciation, it may be worth noting. On the same day I found growing on newly filled in land a vigorous patch of the rare weed, *Anthemis arvensis*, L. [Common about New York, Eds.]

PROVIDENCE, *June 17th.*

W. W. BAILEY.

§ 328. **Lythrum Salicaria**, L.—This plant so interesting on account of its strongly marked trimorphous flowers, was found in abundance on July 5th, in meadow on south side of Moodna Creek, at its confluence with the Hudson River. It also occurs sparingly southward along the river road to Cornwall landing, just along the high water mark.

Echium vulgare, L., infests the roadsides and river banks in Cornwall and adjacent villages.

W. H. RUDKIN.

§ 329. **Antiquity of Orchids.**—In *Nature*, Ap. 3d, in a notice of Grant's *Origin and Development of the Color Sense*, Mr. Wallace says of Orchids: "If we take into account the world-wide distribution of these plants, their immense richness in genera and species, and their wonderful complexity of structure, we must consider them as among the most ancient instead of among the most recent of flowers." In *Nature*, May 15th, D. Wetterhan writes in support of this view: "Out of fifty species of orchids" in Garcke's German Flora, "not less than forty-one occur in the British Isles" besides two not

found in Germany "a proportion considerably exceeding that of phanerogams generally. Now as it seems scarcely credible that orchids should possess means of transportation across the sea in preference to other plants, we must conclude that they inhabited the British Isles before their separation from the Continent, which involves that they have occupied stations near the present coasts of Germany or France previous to a great deal of plants that reached these coasts only subsequently to the formation of the Channel." He also adduces the fact that the British orchids belong to very different groups of the order, enhancing the argument for antiquity based on their geographical distribution.

§ 330. **Bud Variation in Bananas.**—Fritz Miller writes (*Nature*, June 12): "In my garden there is a large plant (planted about eleven years ago) of a variety of banana, distinguished by purplish stems and petioles, red fruits, and by a very peculiar flavor of the latter. From the centre of this plant, covered by the rotten stems of former years, there are now growing green stems, with green petioles; one of them has already produced fruits, which were green when immature, and yellow when ripe, and the flavor of which I found to be but slightly altered. All the young stems growing from the circumference of the plant are purplish. May not many of the varieties of bananas have been produced by bud variation?"

§ 332. **Plantago Patagonica**, Jacq. var. **aristata**, Gray.—The Rev. S. W. Knipe, of Delaware Water Gap, Pa., found this plant in Southern New Jersey, June 28th. He says: "I saw but one locality, that by the side of the road leading south along the west bank of Maurice River, about a half mile below Millville, Cumberland Co., N. J. The plant was abundant for a distance of a rod or two, and is no doubt well established there." This is a very interesting discovery, the nearest station that we have heard of being Illinois.

§ 333. **Antidromy.**—Prof. W. W. Bailey, in the June No. of the *Botanical Gazette* describes the alternation in the convolution of the flowers on the same branch of *Mahernia verticillata*, L. A similar case is that of *Lechea*, and probably other Cistaceae. But in this order, as is well known "the petals are convolute in the opposite direction from the calyx in the bud." What is not so well known is that in *Lechea* the calices of the different flowers on the same branch alternate in the direction of their convolution, so that we have in this case a double antidromy, that of petals compared with calyx, and that of calyx compared with calyx, or flower with flower. The term *antidromy* is thus explained by Dr. Gray in the new edition of his text book, p. 157: "The phyllotaxy of each successive axis of the sympode changes from right to left and from left to right alternately." By *sympodium* is meant "a stem made of a series of superposed branches in a way to imitate a simple axis."

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